A MORPHOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF COMPOUND WORDS
USED IN NOVEL “THE SINGLE GIRL’S TO-DO LIST”
BY LINDSEY KELK

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Abstract

This research deals with compound words used in novel “The Single Girl’s To-do List”. The research is aimed at describing the types and the meaning of compound words that are used in novel “The Single Girl’s To-do List”.

In achieving the objectives, the researcher uses descriptive qualitative as the type of the research. The data are in form of compound words. In collecting the data the writer uses documentation technique and the steps are reading the novel “The single Girl To-do List”, selecting and collecting the data systematically in accordance with the types and the meaning of compound words.

The results of this research show that there are three types of compound words. From 798 data of compound, there are 636 data are classified as endocentric compound, 37 data are copulative compound, and 125 data are exocentric compound. The writer also classifies the meaning of compounds in transparent and opaque meaning. The compounds which have a transparent meanings are 673 data, it is about 84,34% from all of the data. While, the compounds which have opaque meanings are 125 data or about 15,66% from the sum of data.

Keywords: compound words, compounding, type of compound

1. Introduction

Morphology is concerned with the study of how words is formed in language. Morphology is the study of the internal structures of word, how it is formed by the smaller pieces. According to Booij (2005: 4) morphology is a subdiscipline of linguistics that deals with such patterns. Therefore, morphology deals with the internal constituent structure of words as well.

A word itself has a meaning, but word can be grammatically simple and complex. Complex word is word that has internal structure that can be divided into smaller part, while the simple word is the smallest word only
consisting of one single morpheme that has a meaning. A new word can be formed naturally because of the habits, environments and changing times. This study discussed about words that are created through the process of word formation, specifically compounding.

Compounding is the process of bringing together two or more words into a single entity that has one meaning of the word. According to Matthews (1974: 82) compounding is a process by which a compound lexeme is derived from two or more simpler lexeme. It is a combination from form lexemes to not simply form.

According to O’Grady and Dobrovolsky (1987: 139) English orthography is not consistent in representing compounds since they are sometimes written as single words, sometimes with an intervening hyphen, and sometime as separate words. Booij (2005: 93) said that compounds are combinations of two or more lexeme. Compound word is a new word that formed from two or more morphemes. Related to O’Grady (1997:119) who said that a morpheme is the smallest unit of language that carries information about meaning or function.

Katamba (1993: 311) states that there are three types of compound; 1) endocentric compounds, that is compounds with a head. 2) exocentric compound, headless compound. 3) Copulative compounds are compounds that have two words which are coupled or conjoined.

Linguists distinguish at least three types of compound words based on the different semantic relations between the head and modifier(s), there are endocentric compound, copulative compound, and exocentric compound.

According to Katamba (1993: 305) the types of compound are:

1) Endocentric compounds

Katamba (1993: 311) said that, most compound in English are endocentric, they have a head. In such compound, normally the head element appears as the right-handmost constituent of the word.

Semantically an endocentric compound indicates a sub-grouping within the class of entities that the head denotes. There are the examples with
the head is underlined; a *schoolboy* is a kind of a *boy* and a *bedroom* is a kind of *room*.

2) Exocentric compounds

Exocentric compounds or bahuvrihi compounds are headless compounds which do not contain an element that function as the semantic head which is modified by the nonhead element. The constituents in exocentric compounds do not have a head-modifier semantic relationship, for examples; a *blue-nose* is not a nose at all but a purplish variety of potato grown in Nova Scotian, and *white-collar* is neither a kind of a collar nor a white thing, but the meaning is something which is related with a worker.

From semantic point of view, exocentric compounds are opaque. Their meaning often cannot be transparently guessed from its constituent parts like idioms.

3) Copulative compounds

Copulative compounds or dvanda compounds in the Sanskrit name are compounds that have two words which are couple or conjoined. They have the structure shown in:

- girl (N) + friend (N) = girlfriend (N)
- bitter (A) + sweet (N) = bitter-sweet (A)

From a syntactic point of view, copulative compounds are headed. But from a semantic point of view, the coupled elements are equal status, with neither element being regarded as the head that dominates the entire word.

The fact that language is a communicating system with form and meaning relationship to each other, the form cannot be separated from their meaning. The meanings of the compound words interrelate in such a way that a new meaning comes out which is different from the meanings of the words in isolation. Related to Ullmann (1972: 81) every compound contains words which are arbitrary and opaque, without any connection between sound and sense, and others which are at least to some degree motivated and transparent.
From the explanation above, the writer classify the meaning of compound into two, there are transparent meaning and opaque meaning.

1) Transparent words

Transparent words are the meanings of the words can be predicted from the each constituents of the word. For example: *seaweed* is a kind of weed that grows in the sea, *fleabite* is a bite given by a flea, etc.

2) Opaque words

Opaque words are the meaning is not predictable to be determined from the meaning of their constituents. For example: *butterfingers* is neither a kind of fingers nor a kind of butter but rather a person who is apparently in capable of holding things without dropping them.

The writer focuses on the study types and meaning of compound words used in novel *The Single Girl’s To-do List*, chapter 1 - 11. The problem statements are 1) What are the types of compound words in the novel *The single girl’s to-do list*? 2) What are the meanings of compound words found in the novel *The single girl’s to-do list*?

The Objectives of the Study are 1) To identify the types of compound words in the novel *The single girl’s to-do list*. 2) To identify the meanings of the compound words in the novel *The single girl’s to-do list*.

2. Research method

In this research, the writer used descriptive qualitative method. The objects of the research are compound words in the novel, especially *The single girl’s to-do list*. The data of this research are in the form of sentence containing compound word, and the source of data is novel ‘*The single girl’s to-do list*’ chapter 1 – 11 written by Lindsey Kelk.

To collect the data, the writer used documentation. The techniques used in collecting data are; 1) Reading, the writer read the novel “The single girl’s to-do list”. 2) the data were selected then collected systematically in accordance with the problems of the study.
The writer used descriptive analysis to analyze the types and the meaning of compounds word. The steps of analyzing data are as follows: 1) Identifying the construction of the compound words according the rules, 2) Describing the types of compound words using the related theory, 3) Analyzing the meaning of the compound words, 4) Drawing conclusion based on the data analysis.

3. Discussion

The researcher analyzed the types and the meanings of compound words.

1. The types of compound words

   The types are divided into three, there are endocentric compound, copulative compound, and exocentric compound.

   a. Endocentric compound

      Endocentric compound means headed compound which semantic relationship is predictable. For example:
      
      *Taking a black pen out of my handbag,...* (page 10)

      Handbag (noun compound)

      
      \[ 
      \text{N} \quad \text{N} \quad \text{N} \quad \text{hand} \quad \text{bag} \]

      From the tree diagram above, it can be seen that the word *handbag* is formed from two elements *hand* (noun) and *bag* (noun). The meaning of *hand* is the terminal part of the human arm, consisting of the wrist, palm, four finger and thumb, and *bag* is a container made of flexible material with an opening at the top, used for carrying things. Those words create a new word *handbag* which the meaning is a kind of bag or a bag held in the hand or carried by means of handle or strap. The word *handbag* has *hand* as the modifier and *bag* as the head. Thus, It proves that *handbag* is an endocentric compound.
b. Copulative compound

Copulative compound are compound words which have two words which are coupled, and the coupled elements are equal status (headless), but the meanings are not idiomatic.

..., I feel a bit like I’ve been sleepwalking the last couple of years.

Sleepwalking (noun compound)

\[
\text{N} \\
\wedge \\
\text{N} \quad \text{N}
\]

sleep walking

The tree diagram above shows that the word sleepwalking is a noun compound which is formed from two elements. Those two elements are from the same categories sleep (N) + walking (N). The word sleep (N) means the state of person that sleeps. The word walking is the act or action of person or thing that walk. Then, after those words joined together, those create a new word sleepwalking. From syntactic point of view, however, the word sleepwalking are headed, the right most noun (walking) is the head but from semantic point of view the couple elements (sleep + walking) are equal status, with neither element being regarded as the head that dominates the entire word. The meaning of sleepwalking is the act or practice of walking while asleep or the act of sleeping while walking. Based on the types, the word sleepwalking is classified as copulative compound.

c. Exocentric compound

Exocentric compounds are headless compound which do not contain an element as semantic head. For example:
...last night combined with the overabundance of intense \textit{aftershave} came closer,... (page 40)

Aftershave (noun compound)

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{N} \\
\text{Prep} \quad \text{N} \\
\text{After} \quad \text{shave}
\end{array}
\]

From the tree diagram above, it can be seen that the word \textit{aftershave} is noun compound which is formed from two elements with the same different categories (Prep) \textit{after} + (N) \textit{shave}. The meaning of \textit{after} is during the period of time following (an event) and \textit{shave} is an act of shaving hair from the face with a razor. Those two words create a new word \textit{aftershave} which means an astringent, typically scented lotion for applying to the skin after shaving. Based on the types, it is classified as exocentric compound, because the semantic head is not explicitly expressed.

The research findings are 636 data are classified as endocentric compounds from, 37 data are copulative compounds, and 125 data are exocentric compounds from 798 data.

2. The Meaning of Compound Words

The meanings are divided into transparent meaning and opaque meaning

a. Transparent Meaning

Transparent meaning means the meaning is explicitly expressed or predictable from the constituents.
Setting breakfast down on the kitchen countertop, i made a beeline for the bathroom. (page 41)

Bathroom (noun compound)

The noun compound bathroom is formed by combining the words bath + room. The word bath has meaning as the act of soaking or cleansing the body, as in water or steam and room is a portion of space within a building or other structure, separated by walls or partitions from other parts. Those words bath and room then create a new meaning after they joined become noun bathroom. The meaning of bathroom is transparent or predictable from the constituents. The meaning is a room equipped for taking a bath or shower. Based on the explanation above, it proves that the compound bathroom has transparent meaning.

b. Opaque Meaning

Opaque meaning means that the meaning of the compound is not explicitly expressed and unpredictable from the constituents.

Setting breakfast down on the kitchen countertop, i made a beeline for the bathroom. (page 41)

Breakfast (noun compound)

The word breakfast is formed from two elements break (V) + fast (Adj). The word break (V) means to smash, split, or divide into parts violently, reduce to pieces or fragments. The meaning of fast is moving or capable of moving at high speed. Then, after those words joined together, those create a new word breakfast which means the food eaten at the first meal of the day. Based on the meaning, the meaning of breakfast is opaque, because the meaning of breakfast nothing to do with the two constituent words (break + fast).

From 798 data, there are 673 data or 84.34% data transparent meaning and 125 data or 15.66% opaque compound.
4. Conclusion, Implication and Suggestion

1. Conclusion

The researcher has analyzed the types and the meanings of compound words. Based on the analysis of types and meanings of compound words in novel “The Single Girl’s To-do List” chapter 1 - 11, the researcher draws the conclusion as follows:

First, based on types of compound words the writer found 636 or 79.70% data of endocentric compound, those are the dominant data. The copulative compounds are 37 data or 4.64%. Then, the exocentric compounds are 125 data or 15.66%.

Second, the researcher found 673 data of compound that can be categorized as transparent meaning, these are the most dominant meaning with the percentage is (84.34%). Besides those, the researcher found 125 data of compound that can be categorized as opaque meaning with the percentage is (15.66%).

2. Implication

The result of the research on the morphological analysis of compound words above shows the importance of knowledge of the compound words to increase the knowledge about morphology directly. Moreover, in learning English, compound words help the student to increase their vocabularies. It shows the importance of knowledge of the compound word to understand how new words with new meaning are formed by combining two or more word, because in English, the meaning of compound word with a word that forms a compound word can be very different.

3. Suggestion

Based on the result of this study, the writer likes to give suggestion dealing with compound words as follows.

1. the writer hopes that there will be other researcher who will complete or criticize this study to make it better.
2. The results of this research are useful for the readers to increase their understanding about compound words especially about the type and the meaning.

3. The researcher expects that the next researcher will analyze the compound word more specific to enrich the study of compound words.

4. Finally, the researcher expects that this study can enrich the reader’s knowledge about compound words.

5. Bibliography


6. Virtual References


